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A field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Press Release

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Pennsylvania's 2002 Fruit Production

HARRISBURG -- Pennsylvania's 2002 commercial apple production is estimated at 390 million pounds, down 19 percent from last year's crop, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. The value of the apple production (based on first utilization) was set at \$40.1 million.

The 2002 peach crop totaled 60.0 million pounds, down 20 percent from the 2001 peach crop. The value of utilized peach production was set at \$19.8 million. Pear production in the state totaled 3,800 tons for the year, down 1,700 tons from the previous year. Utilized production of 3,500 tons was valued at \$1.7 million. Sweet cherry production in 2002 was 355 tons, down 39 percent from 2001. Utilized production of 355 tons was valued at \$880,000. The State's tart cherry crop decreased in 2002, from 3.9 to 3.8 million pounds. The utilized production was valued at \$2.1 million. Last year's grape production of 53,200 tons was down 13 percent from 2001 production. Utilized production of 53,200 tons was valued at \$12.7 million. The final 2002 price and value estimates will be published on July 8, 2003.

Nationally, the 2002 utilized apple crop totaled 8.47 billion pounds, down 8 percent from 2001. Washington state -- the leading producer -- reported 5.3 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year.

Utilized U.S. production of other fruit crops and the percentage change from 2001 were: peaches, 2.47 billion pounds, up 6 percent; pears, 911,000 tons, down 6 percent; sweet cherries, 176,165 tons, down 20 percent; tart cherries, 62.2 million pounds, down 80 percent; and grapes, 7.1 million tons, up 9 percent.